



## NEWS RELEASE

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**CORRECTION: Earlier release said that King approached the 15-year-old victim.**

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## Two Convicted of Sex Trafficking in Long Beach, Los Angeles

Two men pleaded no contest today to trafficking a woman and teen for the purpose of sex in 2015, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

At today's court appearance, Bobby Joe King, 25, pleaded no contest to a felony count of human trafficking to commit another crime in case NA103428.

The defendant also admitted a special allegation that the crime was committed for the benefit of, at the direction of, and in association with a criminal street gang with the specific intent to promote, further and assist in criminal conduct by gang members.

King's co-defendant, James Mark, 28, pleaded no contest to human trafficking of a minor for a commercial sex act.

The defendants are scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 21 in Department S21 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. King faces 23 years in state prison, while Mark is expected to be sentenced to six years in prison. Both men face lifetime sex offender registration.

Deputy District Attorney Troy Davis of the Victim Impact Program, who prosecuted the case, said King and Mark are both documented gang members.

The prosecutor said in 2015, a 20-year-old woman encountered King online and several months later met up with the defendant in Long Beach. During their meeting, King made the woman work for him as a prostitute, the prosecutor said.

Meanwhile, Mark met a 15-year-old girl in a Los Angeles park, displayed a gun and forced the teenager to work for him as a prostitute, according to the prosecutor.

The human sex trafficking case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

**[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.